

Master Beef Producer Program Offers Value to Participants

UT Extension Dyer County

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What is the Master Beef Producer Program? The Master Beef Producer Program is a UT Extension educational program designed to provide training to improve the profitability and competitiveness of beef cattle producers. The program includes 12 educational sessions that focus on cow-calf production and marketing techniques as well as issues facing the beef industry, including food safety.

Dyer, Gibson, Obion and Lauderdale Counties are currently organizing their 6th annual Master Beef Producer Program to be held at the Dyer County Complex Auditorium located at 151 Everett Avenue, Dyersburg, TN. The initial session will be held Monday, October 20, 2008 from 6:00-9:30 pm. The remaining sessions will be held in the evenings October 23rd to November 24th.

\$175.00 is required to attend the program. The state Agricultural Enhancement Program will cover \$100 dollars of this fee for producers that complete Beef Quality Assurance and register their premise I.D. at your local FSA office or other designated locations. Producers will then be responsible for the remaining \$75 fee. This fee covers all 12 sessions, a reference manual and other educational materials. Producers that complete the course will be awarded a Master Beef Producer Graduation Certificate, cap and farm sign in recognition of their accomplishments. Graduates will qualify for 50% cost share on designated Tennessee Department of Agriculture (TDA) Ag Enhancement Grants. If there are other people in your operation that would like to sit in on the course, they may do so for an additional \$35 per person. Those auditing the class will not graduate or receive the training manual, cap or farm sign nor be qualified for 50% cost share. Producers making application for Tennessee Department of Agriculture Enhancement cost share can mark their Enhancement Grant form to indicate they have enrolled in the Master Beef Producer Program. The Master Beef Producer Program is open to any interested cattle producer; however, space is limited. Those interested in participating should register in advance to guarantee enrollment. UT Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

Contact the UT Extension Dyer County Office at 731-286-7821 for additional information or pre-registration assistance.